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ICG forces keep busy at Centralia and Paducah

June 28, 1982

RAILWAY AGE

Grain by unit train

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RAILWAY AGE

June 21, 1982

FEATURES

Cover: Union Pacific grain train loading at Plainville, Kan. elevator. *Page 17.*

17 Grain by unit train
Especially well suited to movement of grain for export, unit trains give the shipper faster service and the carrier greatly improved car utilization.

20 An Iowa co-op makes history.
The first annual grain-car teardown took place recently near Des Moines. sponsored by AGRI Industries, an Iowa cooperative with its own fleet of 3,162 cars.

23 ICG shops: Centralia, Paducah keep rolling
Centralia is building 1,500 hopper cars. Paducah, meanwhile, is midway through a program converting old hulks into 2,000-hp non-turbocharged road locomotives.

37 Equipment testing: A major role for Miner
Test skills developed by Miner for its own bread and butter line of draft gears are available to other companies—and about 50% of tests are now done on contract.

42 MoPac computer controls 26,000-item inventory
The railroad's Purchasing and Materials Management Department, a long-time computer user, finds the system increasingly valuable now that it's on a real-time basis.

51 Shippers on deregulation: The jury's still out
Without denying that the Staggers Act has brought about many service and rate improvements, some shippers still yearn for the "protection" of the old days.

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8 Transit time cut in ship-rail test
8 $800 billion for highways?
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10 NW plans new intermodal facility
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Market

CARLOADINGS

Loadings of revenue freight in the week ended June 5 totaled 327,648 cars, according to the Association of American Railroads. This was a decrease of 64,838 cars, or 16.5%, compared with the corresponding week last year. Ton-miles generated by carloadings in the week ended June 5 are estimated at 14.3 billion, a decrease of 15.4% below the corresponding week of 1981. The 1982 week included the Memorial Day holiday, while the 1981 week was the tenth week of the coal miners' strike

REVENUE FREIGHT CARLOADINGS

	June 5 week	May 29 week
Grain	19,266	22,106
Other farm products	4,076	4,648
Metallic ores	20,693	22,529
Coal	101,491	114,796
Crushed stone, gravel & sand	8,202	9,807
Nonmetallic minerals	7,388	9,881
Grain mill products	10,186	11,494
Food & kindred products	11,828	14,047
Primary forest products	12,963	14,826
Lumber & wood products (except furniture)	5,105	6,891
Pulp, paper & allied products	14,937	17,048
Chemicals & allied products	18,483	22,919
Petroleum products	3,891	4,744
Stone, clay & glass products	8,893	10,051
Coke	4,838	4,488
Metals & products	7,918	10,153
Motor vehicles & equipment	14,349	17,078
Waste & scrap materials	6,647	8,711
Forwarder & shipper assn. traffic.	7,019	9,047
All other carloads	39,233	45,692
LCL traffic	252	300
Total Cars Loaded	**327,648**	**381,256**
Cumulative total, 23 weeks	**1982 8,575,401**	**1981 9,461,603**
Estimated revenue ton-miles (billions), 23 weeks	**369.2**	**403.5**

PIGGYBACK LOADINGS

U.S. piggyback loadings for the week ended May 29 totaled 38,261 cars (26.7% above the corresponding holiday week of 1981) and 67,373 trailers or containers (up 25.2% from 1981). Cumulative volume for the first 22 weeks of 1982 is 777,544 cars (up 8.7% from 1981) and 1,390,516 trailers or containers (up 7.2% from 1981).

CANADIAN CARLOADINGS

Canadian railway revenue freight loaded in the seven-day period ended May 21 totaled 4.7 million metric tonnes (up 16.7% from 1981). Cars loaded totaled 71,182 (up 9.2% from last year). Cumulative loadings for 1982 were 82.6 million metric tonnes (down 7.3% from 1981).

• *Amtrak*.—Ordered three wheel truing machines from Abex/Stanray for delivery in 1983. The manufacturer says this is the largest such order ever placed in North America.

• *Construction Development Corp. of the Philippines*.—Awarded a $3.5-million contract to Filipinas Dravo and Dravo Utility Constructors, Inc., a subsidiary of Dravo Corp. of Pittsburgh, to provide construction management services for the Phase I 9½-mile segment of the Manila light rail transit system.

• *CP Rail*.—Is spending $16.5 million to expand and modernize its diesel locomotive shop facilities in Winnipeg. Scheduled for completion in November 1983, the project will increase Winnipeg's diesel servicing capacity from 200 to 450 units.

• *New York City Transit Authority*.—Awarded a $5.3-million contract to F. Garofalo Electric Co. of Whitestone, N.Y., for installation of a communications system linking the TA's Brooklyn headquarters with train dispatchers and towermen on all subway lines.

• *Northeast Corridor Improvement Project*.—Intelect, Inc., of Hawaii will provide an $800,000 microprocessor-controlled voice communications system as part of an overall upgrading of signal and traffic control systems for which Chrysler's Huntsville Electronics Division has the prime contract (*RA*, Sept. 14, 1981, p. 12).

• *Staten Island Rapid Transit Operating Authority*.—Gibbs & Hill, Inc., has been selected to prepare designs for a $25-million service-improvement program that calls for modernization of power substations and the power distribution system; rehabilitation and extension of platforms at 12 stations; replacement of interlocking signals at the Tottenville terminal; and installation of new machine tools at the Clifton maintenance shop.